

# CARES ACT – FISHERIES

(Sec. 12005 of the Coronavirus Aid,  
Relief, and Economic Security Act)

# HISTORY

- March 27, 2020 - H.R. 748 was passed and signed by the President
- May 7<sup>th</sup> - Secretary of Commerce announced allocation of \$300 million in fisheries assistance
  - To states, tribes, and territories with coastal and marine fishery participants who have been negatively affected by COVID–19.
- NOAA Guidance:
  - May 18 – Methodology and Data
  - May 22 – Sector Percentages
- May 27 - NH initiating Workgroup Meetings
- June 2 – First Workgroup meeting/Aquaculture

# CARES ACT CRITERIA

- NH resident (person, LLC, company, etc.) only.
- >35% Economic Loss compared to prior 5-year average.
- Only Fisheries Related:
  - Qualifying: Commercial Fishing, For-Hire, Aquaculture, Processors/Dealers, and “Other” Related Fishery Businesses.
  - Non-Qualifying: Further down the supply chain; such as vessel repair, restaurants, or seafood retailers.

# CARES ACT CRITERIA (continued)

- Cannot compensate, state, local, or tribe for lost municipal or government tax revenue
- Only address fishery-related direct or indirect losses
- **Cannot apply to other federal programs for assistance to address the same impacts resulting from COVID-19.**
- **Cannot be compensated from all federal programs combined for assistance to address COVID-19 for more than related losses. “Cannot be made more than whole of loss”.**

# NH CARES ACT PACKAGE

	<i>Percentage of Total Annual Revenue (All Sectors)</i>					
Entity	For-Hire Fishing	<u>Commercial Fishing and Aquaculture</u>	Seafood Sector	Tribal Commercial Fishing, Aquaculture & For Hire	Allocation	After NOAA/ASMFC overhead
New Hampshire	4.30%	40.10%	55.60%		\$2,732,492	\$2,710,668

# PRELIMINARY DATA

Commercial Saltwater **40.1%** of NH CARES  
Package

Commercial Saltwater/Lobster **40.1%**  
**= \$1,086,978**

# Example Data

Month	March	April	May
2015	\$4,156	\$7,623	\$2,525
2016	\$6,078	\$7,713	\$35,439
2017	\$5,427	\$11,844	\$25,423
2018	\$3,399	\$4,002	\$9,914
2019		\$10,446	\$338
2020	\$451	\$5,152	\$8,757
Average Value 2015-2019	\$4,765	\$8,326	\$14,728
Percent Change in Value	<b>-91%</b>	<b>-38%</b>	<b>-41%</b>
Value of Loss	<b>\$4,314</b>	<b>\$3,174</b>	<b>\$5,970</b>

# Example Data

Month	March	April	May
2015			
2016	\$6,197	\$17,948	
2017	\$2,720	\$10,279	
2018	\$9,971	\$18,953	
2019	\$4,081	\$8,271	
2020	\$11,863	\$19,285	\$455
Average Value 2015-2019	\$5,742	\$13,863	\$0
Percent Change in Value	107%	39%	455%
Value of Loss	NA	NA	NA

# TASK

- Questions on CARES
- Discussion:
  - Timing of Data Review
    - Through April
    - Through May
    - Through ????????
  - Direct Payments
    - No minors
  - Fishery-related Infrastructure
  - Fishery-related Education

# TASK (Continued)

- Develop Strawman Spend Plan for Commercial Saltwater/Lobster Sector of funds (Can be over 2 meetings).

# Next Steps for Workgroup

- Draft Strawman Plan (1 to 2 meetings)
- Send Survey to NH Qualified Licensed Commercial Saltwater/Lobster Fleet
  - Email or paper
- 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting to Review Survey Responses
- Finalize Spend Plan
  - Associate Funding to Spend Plan

# Next Steps for NHF&G

- Draft Spend Plan for all CARES Associated Fisheries
- Send Spend Plan to ASMFC and NOAA Fisheries for Approval
- Start the Qualification Process
- Upon Approval by NHF&G:
  - ASMFC will distribute funds to NH CARES qualifiers